

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1040

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to education and examination requirements for the issuance of a driver's license.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 521.141, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

(d) A driver education school may administer an examination to a student of that school under Section 521.1655 before the student applies for an instruction permit or driver's license.

SECTION 2. Section 521.1655, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) A driver education school licensed under Chapter 1001, Education Code, [~~the Texas Driver and Traffic Safety Education Act (Article 4413(29c), Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes)~~] may administer to a student of that school the [~~vision~~₇] highway sign₇] and traffic law parts of the examination required by Section 521.161 if the student:

(1) is 15 years of age or older, but under 18 years of age, and has completed and passed six hours of classroom instruction of a driver education course approved under Chapter 1001, Education Code; or

(2) is 18 years of age or older and has completed and passed a six-hour traffic law classroom driver education course

1 approved under Chapter 1001, Education Code.

2 (c) A driver education school may electronically administer
3 an examination under this section provided that the school produces
4 an electronic record of the examination and retains the record for
5 the period required by the commissioner of education.

6 SECTION 3. Section 1001.101, Education Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 1001.101. DRIVER EDUCATION COURSE CURRICULUM AND
9 TEXTBOOKS. (a) The commissioner by rule shall establish the
10 curriculum and designate the textbooks to be used in:

11 (1) a driver education course for minors and adults;
12 and

13 (2) a traffic law classroom driver education course
14 for adults.

15 (b) A driver education course under Subsection (a)(2) must:

16 (1) be a six-hour course; and

17 (2) include instruction in the following:

18 (A) driver's license requirements;

19 (B) vehicle inspection and registration;

20 (C) financial responsibility;

21 (D) highway signs that regulate, warn, or direct
22 traffic; and

23 (E) the traffic laws of this state, including the
24 laws and penalties concerning driving while intoxicated or driving
25 under the influence of alcohol.

26 (c) An approved driving safety course does not qualify as a
27 course under Subsection (a)(2).

1 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply to an
2 application for the issuance of a driver's license filed on or after
3 the effective date of this Act. An application for the issuance of
4 a driver's license filed before the effective date of this Act is
5 governed by the law in effect on the date of the filing, and that law
6 is continued in effect for that purpose.

7 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.